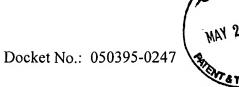
DS-V



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277

Tatsuhiko SAITOH, et al. : Confirmation Number: 8678

Application No.: 10/764,454 : Group Art Unit: 1791

Filed: January 27, 2004 : Examiner: Queenie S. Dehghan

For: METHOD OF PRODUCING OPTICAL FIBER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

10/764,454

CERTIFICATION PARAGRAPH

The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information

Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a

counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information

Disclosure Statement as described in 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

The references were cited in a corresponding Japanese Office Action and their relevance

are discussed therein. A copy of the Japanese Office Action, together with an English language

version thereof, is attached for the Examiner's information.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to

such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Please recognize our Customer No. 20277 as our correspondence address.

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